

**BRIEFING**

**6 JUNE 1956**

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**U NU'S RESIGNATION**

I. "Voluntary" withdrawal of U Nu from Premiership in Burma may prove to be unfavorable to US--we don't know if he will continue to be stabilizing influence, once out of office, and we don't know where his successor, Ba Swe, stands politically.

II. Variety of motives suggested for U Nu's retirement:

A. He says he wants to purge his political party (AFPFL) of "Communists, fellow-travellers, etc."

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B. Strong possibility also that he's been pressured out by Socialist colleagues, who wish to rule in own right.

III. Sharp contrast between U Nu and successor, Ba Swe:

A. Nu strictly moral in politics:

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B. Nu enjoys limelight: Ba Swe prefers behind-the-scenes work.

C. Nu deeply devout:

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IV. Ba Swe's basic politics an enigma: now leads Socialists, but once almost shifted to "Workers & Peasants" (pro-Commie).

A. Internally, seems to favor accommodation to Commie insurgents.

B. Externally, speaks well of ChiComs and will soon visit Moscow and Peiping, but at same time has favored Colombo Plan, US aid and Nu's neutral foreign policy.

C. For immediate future, however, Ba Swe's preoccupation with domestic politics probably means no shift in foreign policy.

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